

Harbor Committee
July 6, 2009

Members Present: Alan Fischlowitz, Chair; Charlie Meech and Gary Russell
Members Absent: Arnie Nelson

The Harbor Committee called to order by Chair A. Fischlowitz on Monday, July 6, 2009 at 9:04 a.m. at the Town Hall. A quorum of the committee is present as reflected in the members listed above.

1. Discussion and/or Recommendation to the Town Board: Appointment of additional Committee members.

A. Fischlowitz suggests discussing this and agenda item 4 together.

Consensus of committee at the last meeting was to have a five member committee. Jim Binsfield and Jerry Smith have signed up. A. Fischlowitz said J. Binsfield would like to be an alternate as he is not here in winter.

Motion by G. Russell to recommend to the Town Board that Jerry Smith be appointed as a full time Harbor committee member and that Jim Binsfield be appointed as an alternate.

Question if both parties should be full time members. Short discussion of meeting the requirements of a quorum. Second to the motion on the floor by C. Meech. All in favor, 3 ayes, Motion carried.

2. Review and Approval of the Following minutes:

A. May 13, 2009

B. June 1, 2009

Motion by G. Russell to approve the May 13, 2009 and June 1, 2009 Harbor Committee minutes as presented, second, C. Meech. All in favor, 3 ayes. Motion carried.

3. Discussion of Mission and Goals of the Committee

A. Fischlowitz presented a rough idea of the primary function of the harbor committee. This document is hereby attached and made a part of these minutes.

G. Russell would like "overseeing beaches" taken from the statement as he thinks that is a park issue.

Discussion of mooring at Joni's Beach. If the town put in 10 seasonal and 10 transient moorings outside of Joni's Beach there could be rental income; however, most seem to put their own moorings down.

Agreement to remove "overseeing beaches" from the first paragraph of the document.

Short discussion of the list of issues regarding the oversight function of the Harbor Committee. G. Russell said this is a good list of items. A. Fischlowitz said he is looking at other harbor commissions and will try to get a draft document in everyone's email by the next meeting. Thank you to A. Fischlowitz.

4. Discussion of Membership and Organization of the Committee.

Discussed with Agenda item 1.

5. Resources available.

A. Fischlowitz has not had time to go through materials and will have a list of resources for the next meeting. One grant deadline is August 1st but there is not enough time to put together an application.

6. Survey of Port Managers as conducted by the WI Dept of Transportation.

G. Russell will complete and send in the survey and copy A. Fischlowitz.

7. Discussion of Possible consultants and/or engineering firms for feasibility study.

A. Fischlowitz said Warzyn Consulting Engineers were hired in 1983 to do a feasibility study for the 330 foot breakwater. They have since retired. G. Russell said part of the breakwater project was the finger pier where the Nichevo is tied. The 25 or so boats tied up outside the Beach Club last weekend would have not been possible without that breakwall. This demonstrates the need to have a harbor.

G. Russell said Ken Nichols of Nichols and Bradley Engineering of Madison, WI used to work for Warzyn and did a couple of projects on the Island dock. They also rebuilt the dock in Bayfield and helped find funding. A. Fischlowitz has emailed several engineering firms and received one answer from Green Bay. G. Russell will call Ken Nichols to see if he could meet with the committee when he is in the area.

8. Discussion of possible attendance at WI Commercial Ports Association, Sturgeon Bay in August.

This takes place August 26th and 27th. The Harbor Committee does not have a budget so there is no money for an expense like this. G. Russell suggests that this committee ask the Town Board if some expenses could be paid in order to have A. Fischlowitz attend this meeting as the Town should be represented.

Motion by G. Russell that we recommend to the Town Board that A. Fischlowitz be appointed as the representative of the Town of La Pointe at the WI Commercial Port Association annual meeting in August and that his mileage and lodging expenses be reimbursed. Second, C. Meech. All in favor, three ayes. Motion carried.

A. Fischlowitz suggests asking Beth Fischlowitz, Town Board liaison for the Harbor Committee, to see if there could be a line item added in the budget for Harbor.

9. Discussion of funding possibilities for implementation of the committee's stated mission and goals.

A. Fischlowitz said the Alternative Energy Committee is looking at putting 6 towers in the sheep farm area on Big Bay road to meet the Town's energy needs or putting some at the sheep farm and some at the State Park. For discussion purposes he suggests that perhaps this committee and the AEC could combine energy and harbor to help with funding. Question if wind turbines could be put on breakwaters. A. Fischlowitz said there appears to be no objection from the Corp of Engineers, Coast Guard, or from the WI DNR. If a turbine was on a breakwater there would be less interrupted wind and therefore the turbine would not have to be so tall. There are also vertical axis turbines which do not have to be of great height.

10. Set meeting date and agenda for next meeting.

Next Harbor Committee meeting will be August 3, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

11. Adjourn.

Motion to adjourn by G. Russell, 2nd A. Fischlowitz. All in favor, three ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30am.

Minutes taken from tape and respectfully submitted by Kathy Erickson, Clerical Assistant.

Minutes approved as presented August 3, 2009